

Lyons, Wednesday Evening, 17th April, 1839

Dear Doctor.

About the same hour that I left Paris, that is to say at 6 o'clock Monday Evening, I trust that two boxes were on their way to Harve. The larger is addressed to Wiley & Putnam, and contains books for Michigan Library and for me their worthy Professor: also a parcel for two of dried plants (one from Webb, Sabillandiere's N. Holland Coll; the other from Spach), to say nothing of one or two articles of half-worn out clothing that I sent off to lighten my baggage for this direction. I gave a list of the Contents of this box to Mr. Putnam, and asked him (by letter) to let his ~~clerk~~ clerk copy it and send to you. You will see that it is in good part botanical and contains some good things. The smaller box - the one you sent out - is directed to you. Care of Wiley & Putnam, who will take all the trouble about it. It contains a package of plants of Sabillandiere offered you by Mr. Webb, who has been a very good friend of mine. (I may drop him a line if you receive the parcel. His address is Rue de Madame, no. 45.) A copy of Endlicher, Gen. Pl. 9 parts, for Mr. Sullivan, - a copy of Linn. Spec. Plantarum 3rd ed. (Vindob.) for yourself if you care for it, if not for Sullivan. - All the pamphlets I have collected here - a goodly number. Some are addressed to you, and whether they be or not when there are doubles one is always for you, when more than two give the others to those they will benefit most. - Some little matters for dear Mrs. T. - A microscope (simple) for Sullivan (the bill enclosed), which I know you will like much - the lenses are all doublets, and it is not only very good but very cheap. Please to notice that the two side lenses, with a bit of paper round them marked A. G. and the other articles enclosed in the box marked with same initials are mine not Sullivan's. who has 4 lenses only (The instrument with 2 lenses - any you like below a line focus is 60 francs, and you pay for all others besides) Please take care of these for me. I have also one of $\frac{1}{4}$ line focus (the same as Sullivan's highest) selected by Chevalier with great care; this I have with me for comparison. Chevalier has no $\frac{1}{2}$ line focus just at present but has promised me one. Take especial care of the little box of thin glass: it is precious. I have ordered an achromatic for Sullivan, which I think will be very satisfactory, as well for price as performance; but I cannot have it until July. So I shall endeavor to bring it with me. It will be excellent and will cost only 100 dollars. Tell Sullivan I would like to add 20 or 30 more, in some things very convenient but not actually necessary, but shall not unless he directs me immediately. He can add to and perfect the instrument at any time thereafter, as he likes, about which I will, by - and - by give him some advice. The box also contains some botanical notes (rather than letters) for you, and a long talk addressed to the girls. I left Paris in such great haste that I could not write by mail to Harve for this evening packet, to apprise you, but there is yet time and I embrace this the first moment since, for that purpose. I had to leave several little things (right - seeing only)

undone at Paris, to get off, and you will perceive that my letters are
clouded, are brought to most rapid conclusion. I like Michel excessively.
Considering I was a perfect stranger of whom he knew nothing, I think he
took great pains to show me what he wanted to see. Sullivan's Micro-
scope will be of the same kind as his, only better, so that he will
have the means of being a second Michel. Webb is very anxious to
get a set of Nuttall's Organ, Batil, & Rocky Mountain Plants
(He already possesses Mercier's Herb. in which he has very many of
Nuttall's specimens of old). I promised to ask you to apply at once
to Nuttall for them, as many as he chooses, Webb gives the
price 10 Dollars the hundred. If Nuttall will let him have
them I will be responsible for the pay, will pay Nuttall on my re-
turn as it will be convenient for me to let Webb make a payment
for me in Paris in August, so that it will save trouble both ways.
Tell Nuttall that if he inclines to make another similar trip,
I will insure the prompt disposal of all his specimens at this
price, provided they are not all specimens of illustrating the infinite
divisibility of matter. This if mailed to-morrow will reach Home in
good time for the packet of the 24th which is to bring the boxes to you.
You see how greatly I am pressed. When you receive this and the box,
may I ask the favour of your writing a few lines to my father (Moses
Gray, La Vergne, Meida Co. New York) to say when you heard from
me last, &c. &c. to relieve them from any anxiety, as I have not
written since I left England.

I left Paris Monday Evening by Malle-post, which gave us scarcely
time to eat on the way, arrived here at 6 o'clock this morning. - Have not
had my clothes off for 2 or 3 nights. - Have spent nearly all day
with Seringe, looking at plants &c. and at some of the manufac-
tures of Dick - the Bot. Garden &c. - picturesquely situated town. -
am to be waked at 3 ³/₄ in the morning, and take Steamboat
down the Rhone for Arignon, (167 miles, where I hope to be
long before sunset) I lose no time. Seringe is a kind old man.
He wants a suite of N. Am. Willows. Will you prevail on the
Duke to send him a parcel! pray do. I have given him the
Duke's address; he has given me a copy of his Swiss Willows & the
supplement for Barnatt, which I shall send in a parcel of things
from Marseilles, if opportunity occurs. It is 9 o'clock. I am fairly
worn down, yet not the less in good spirits, and with a night's rest
in a bed I shall be fresh & lively for tomorrow, when I expect to en-
joy the Rhone amazingly. I much to write did time allow,
But it will not.

Do not over-look what I have said
about the new genus in Herb. Michel.
My plan for making exchange of Libra for books, with Balli-
er, & with the house who have Endlicher &c. has failed, after giving me
trouble and loss of time. - too late for me to order Dec. prod. for you, for
Puellivant & for Carey & Putnam, in time to send in the box.
I reserve particulars until I have more time. I shall order them in
a few days & have all sent to New York. The Endlicher for Puellivant
I paid cash for. After seeing it, you can afford to wait a little longer for
your own. Adieu. - Ever truly Yours A. Gray